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Alert: Suspension of Adoptions Lifted in Sierra Leone

On April 13, 2012, the Government of Sierra Leone's Ministry of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs lifted the suspension on intercountry adoptions that it enacted on May 21, 2009. Official information states at this time that any new intercountry adoptions will take place under the country's existing legal framework outlined in the country information sheet for Sierra Leone on adoption.state.gov. An interagency committee established by the Ministry continues to work on new adoption laws and procedure and the situation remains fluid. We strongly encourage prospective adoptive parents to read all information regarding intercountry adoption procedures for Sierra Leone prior to beginning the process of intercountry adoption.

Please continue to monitor adoption.state.gov for updated information.